Daily Report

Latin America

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C.A. Presidents' Summit Set for Early November

PA2209211588 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2027 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Vinicio Cerezo and Jose Napoleon Duarte, presidents of Guatemala and El Salvador respectively, agreed today to hold in the 1st weeks of November a Central American presidential "summit" to revitalize the Esquipulas II regional peace process.

Cerezo arrived this morning in San Salvador, the first stop on his tour of Central America, to promote the new presidential summit. He agreed with Duarte that two Central American foreign ministers' meetings must be held prior to the presidential summit, official sources said.

Regarding the exact date of the summit—which in principle is slated to be held in San Salvador—Christian Democrats Duarte and Cerezo agreed on the need to consult first with the other area heads of state.

Cerezo will go on to Costa Rica today and Honduras and Nicaragua tomorrow.

L.A. Parliament Demands Paraguay Respect Rights

PY2109160288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0813 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Montevideo, 20 Sep (EFE)—Today a group of Uruguayan legislators representing all political parties delivered to the Paraguayan ambassador in Montevideo, Roque Yodice Codas, a letter from the Latin American Parliament demanding respect for the freedom of expression, assembly, and association in Paraguay.

During a news conference, Deputy Yamandu Fau, of the leftist coalition "Broad Front," said that the letter voiced the Latin American Parliament's concern "over events that are taking place in Paraguay and said that they deemed this a prudent approach."

Legislator Javier Anza, of the opposition National Party (Blanco), explained that Uruguay had been chosen spokesman of the Latin American Parliament because, among other reasons, the members of its delegation, regardless of their political party, had unanimously approved the letter.

Colorado Party Deputy Julio Aguiar, who also participated in the meeting at the Paraguayan Embassy in Montevideo, disclosed that the Paraguayan ambassador "rejected the terms of the letter because he believes that they do not reflect the true Paraguayan domestic situation."

However, according to Aguiar, the ambassador "promised to deliver it to his Foreign Ministry and said that a second meeting would be held during which they would be given an answer."

Aguiar added: "We hope to generate a solidarity dialogue so that Paraguay may gradually solve its domestic problems."

Colorado Party Deputy Guillermo Stirling said that they met for 1 hour with the Paraguayan Ambassador and noted that the dialogue had been "cordial."

After the meeting with the legislators Ambassador Codas Yodice told the media that the "letter expresses concern and I am convinced about that, since it is made by legitimate representatives of the Uruguayan people, but I have reiterated that I reject the charges because they do not reflect the true situation."

The ambassador explained that "freedom of press, association, and assembly is respected in Paraguay."

The ambassador added that, "however, I have received the letter and will transmit it to the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry, which will answer every point in the note."

Panama's PRD Leader Elected COPPPAL President

PA2009213888 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Carlos Ozores Typaldos, vice president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, was elected president of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, COPPPAL, for a 2-year period at a meeting held on 18 September in Managua, Nicaragua.

Ozores, who replaces Romulo Escobar Bethancourt in that position, fulfilled Panama's expectations of being reelected through the PRD, which is one of COPPPAL's founding parties. The organization now comprises 34 parties—10 are currently ruling parties and 7 are members of the Contadora and Support Groups.

Nils Castro, PRD secretary of international relations, will continue as COPPPAL's executive secretary.

The meeting of COPPPAL vice presidents was held at the same time as a meeting of COPPPAL youth organizations, during which Juan Hernandez of the PRD Juvenile Front was elected coordinator.

COPPPAL's meetings ended yesterday.

Cuba

Human Rights Group Meets With PCC Officials

FL2309023088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] The Human Rights Commission delegation which is visiting Cuba met today with Carlos Aldana, PCC Central Committee secretary. Previously, also at the PCC Central Committee headquarters, the delegation was received by Jose Felipe Carneado, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the Religious Affairs Department.

These meetings have been held at commission's request. During the meetings, discussions were held presumably on matters dealing with the fields of expertise of these PCC leaders.

The commission is presided over by Senegalese Ambassador Alioune Sene, who arrived last Friday in Havana heading a delegation invited by the Cuban Government to observe the human rights situation in the Caribbean country.

Comparison of Politburo, Secretariat Discussion

Havana Tele-Rebelde Network on 21 September carries a report on the meeting of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PCC Central Committee on 15, 16, and 17 September. The Havana Tele-Rebelde version has been compared to the Havana Radio Progreso Network Spanish version published in the 22 September Latin American Daily Report, pages 1-2 revealing the following variations:

Page 1, column one, first paragraph, line three in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...presided over by the first Secretary of the party, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz. We now present a version of the communique published in GRANMA newspaper. The meeting was primarily dedicated... (providing additional material)

Page 1, column two, paragraph one, line six in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...the economic adversities. We must produce more... (omitting passage)

Page 1, column two, paragraph two, line five in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...the expected return. Further on the document indicates that the Politburo and Secretariat of the Central Committee confirmed that despite... (omitting passage, providing additional material)

Page 1, column two, paragraph four, line three in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...perfect its management. Later on in the document, it is indicated that during the integral analysis of the situation... (omitting passage, adding additional material)

Page 1, column two, paragraph six, line two in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...of definite measures on the part of the party and the government to suppress all the causes of the problems, whose solution depends on the quality of our effort, by forcefully eradicating indolence and negligent attitudes that are foreign to the essence of socialism and the policy of the revolution.

The document indicates that among other topics discussed was the need for the party to perfect the integral nature of its organizational, political, and ideological work, and to activate even more its work of guiding, promoting, and controlling the economic policy set forth. It is up to the party to give greater cohesion and strength to production, services, and administrative tasks performed by the state and organs of the people's government and to educate its cadres in the practice of criticism and in the honest recognition of their errors. The demands they make of themselves and of others should be one of the characteristics of a party and state cadre. The fundamental goal is for each person to ably fulfill his obligations. It was stressed at the meeting... (omitting passage, rewording, providing additional material)

Page 2, column one, paragraph four, line five in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...true productive feats. The meeting also included some topics related to ideological activities... (omitting passage)

Page 2, column one, paragraph seven, line two in the Tele-Rebelde version: ...national and international events. Also reaffirmed were the guiding principles on the use of criticism as part of the daily effort to provide information and guidance of the revolutionary press, whose basic watchword should be truthful reflection, free of superficial and subjective influences, on the positive features and negative tendencies, especially in respect to economic and social development. Also made evident was the organic link that should be maintained between the decisions that affect the masses one way or the other on the part of the political and administrative management organizations, and the social function of clarifying and reporting in depth which should be carried out by our press, radio, and television. It was emphasized that the practice... (providing additional material)

Syria's Al-Ahmar, Risquet Begin Talks

JN2209193088 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] The first round of talks was held in Havana today between an Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation under Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the party, and a Cuban Communist Party delegation led by Jorge Risquet, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee. They talked about issues of interest to the two parties and friendly peoples in Syria and Cuba. Risquet praised Syria's key role in the region and its continued confrontation of anti-Arab imperialist and Zionist

schemes, posing a threat to all peace loving forces in the world. The Cuban official expressed his country's support for all just Arab causes, notably the Palestinian question.

Eighth Pan-American Arab Congress Begins

FL2209185788 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] This morning, the eighth Pan-American Arab Congress began in the Palace of Conventions in the capital. The welcome of the delegates was given by Levi Farah, president of the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association.

[Begin Farah recording] All the members of the resident Arab community in the heroic land of Marti and Fidel feel justifiably happy that our country is hosting the eighth congress of the federation of American-Arab entities. It is a great honor for me to welcome all of you in the name of our people who with their proverbial hospitality, will surround your stay in Havana with the purest of man's feelings, the feelings of friendship and human solidarity. [end recording]

The eighth congress has as its objective the unity of all the Arab communities of this continent and their involvement in the issues of the Arab world. There are 140 national delegates and over 200 foreign delegates from 16 countries participating in this congress. The high level delegations present are from Syria and Libya, and there are also representatives from the PLO.

Moments before the Pan-American Arab Congress began, the leaders of the participating delegations laid flowers at the monument of the Cuban national hero, Jose Marti, in this capital's main park.

Lezcano Stresses People's Councils Importance

FL2209163788 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Jorge Lezcano Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the PCC in Havana City Province, stressed the importance of establishing people's councils in four communities in the province to improve work by government organs in the capital. After establishing a people's council in Guanabo, Lezcano added that the councils would also function in Campo Florido, belonging to the same municipality, as well as in Punta Brava, La Lisa, and in Managua, Arroyo Naranjo. He explained that those areas were chosen for their geographical location and population characteristics with the intention of not only improving the performance of the organs of the people's government but ensuring that the participation of the electorate will contribute to the solving of problems. The people's councils will ensure that administrative duties will be carried out and that community development will be advanced.

Transportation Ministry Vehicle Survey Canceled

FL2209152788 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] The Council of Minister's Executive Committee reports that the Transportation Ministry's survey of light vehicles used by officials and employees of state offices has been suspended. To avoid confusion that could arise from this survey, the committee also reports that no vehicle being used gainfully by the state offices shall be sold or given to any administrative, technical, or labor branch. The Executive Committee is studying the regulations for usage of those vehicles, and will make a decision as soon as possible. The committee will be guided by the criteria that [words indistinct] and rational of those means.

Bahamas

Prime Minister Pindling Leaves for West Berlin

FL2209200988 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Prime Minister Pindling is on his way to West Berlin today for a meeting of the World World and the IMF. Sir Lynden will be joined there by a delegation that is already in Cyprus attending a Commonwealth's finance ministers meeting. The minister of agriculture, trade, and industry, the Honorable Ervin Knowles, heads the team in Cyprus.

Mugabe, Pindling Issue Joint Communique

FL2209205188 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] At a news conference yesterday, a joint Bahamas-Zimbabwe communique was issued. President Mugabe and Prime Minister Pindling agreed that the United Nations remains the central system for international cooperation and collective security as well as being a multilateral forum that is essential to the viability of small states. They also agreed that their respective delegations at the United Nations maintain close relations.

The leaders discussed the agenda of the Nonaligned Movement which calls for an end to the nuclear arms race and for a concerted effort to hasten the Iran-Iraq peace settlement, as well as the resolution of conflicts of other areas of the Middle East.

In regards to Central America, they commended the efforts being made by the governments and peoples of Central America to bring peace to the region and they called for a political solution to the problems of Central America on the basis of full respect for the principles of independence, sovereignty, and non-interference in the internal affairs of state.

The leaders also reaffirmed their total commitment to the fight against drug trafficking and drug abuse and expressed their willingness to cooperate with other countries for the establishment of internationally acceptable mechanisms to bring offenders to justice.

President Mugabe and Prime Minister Pindling also agreed that the proper authorities should also explore the possibilities of opening avenues for technical assistance in tourism and agriculture and to further strengthen the link between Zimbabwe and the Bahamas. We get more on that news conference from Michelle Malcolm.

[Begin recording] [Malcolm] The joint communique says the two leaders, President Robert Mugabe, and the prime minister, the Right Honorable Sir Linden Pindling, held wide-ranging discussions on bilateral and international matters of common interest, one of the major issues being that of sanctions against South Africa and its apartheid regime. The leaders agreed to accelerate efforts to enforce the Commonwealth report on southern Africa whose objectives are the dismantling of apartheid and a meaningful dialogue to establish a non-racial and democratic government [words indistinct] during the discussions on a wider application of sanctions against the Pretoria regime. President Mugabe and Prime Minister Pindling noted the dangerous situation existing in southern Africa and they reaffirmed their total support for the just struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa and Namibia reiterating their call for those peoples to enjoy their inalienable right to live in freedom and dignity. During the press conference, President Mugabe noted that apartheid is not just a political strategy [words indistinct] in South Africa.

[Mugabe] It is also a strategy to try and overthrow the systems of democracy surrounding South Africa so that it can be said at the end of the day that, ah! the country which were given majority rule have mismanaged their affairs. Look at what is happening. There is no stability, there is no development, and so we in South Africa must be left as we are, we know better what our people need. Hence, you have cross-border operations by South Africa against Mozambique, against Angola, against Zimbabwe, Botswana, Zambia, Lesotho, Swaziland, and none of these countries bordering South Africa eats, breaths, coughs [words indistinct] by South Africa.

[Malcolm] He said there is a need for various countries, including the Bahamas, to ensure a high level of consciousness among their people so that they may see apartheid as an evil system that is affecting their fellow blacks, and he calls for more action from the European Community.

[Mugabe] We would expect that all countries say at the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Commonwealth, and the various other forums, regional and others, will denounce apartheid again and again and never stop denouncing it. That thing is quite amazing to Botha. He doesn't want to be denounced. We would want to see for example [words indistinct] take a much more tough line against South Africa. We are aware of countries [words indistinct] with a negative attitude but we cannot tire of [words indistinct] to review the position and to call sanctions against South Africa.

[Malcolm] The president thanked Prime Minister Pindling for his role in bringing about the initiative on South Africa with a view to getting various parties together saying that even though the response from South African leader P.W. Botha was negative, the initiative was a success in that various countries have adopted sanctions and the essence and nature of apartheid is now exposed. He stated that those who oppose sanctions against South Africa must take another view because a regime such as that could not be allowed to continue to rule. President Mugabe revealed that on his way back to Zimbabwe he intends to stop in business to meet with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. There he will attempt to convince her to impose economic sanctions against South Africa. [end recording]

State Visit Ends

FL2209181588 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Following a short exchange of pleasantries, kisses, and well-wishes, the president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Comrade Mugabe, along with Madame Mugabe and his official delegation departed the capital aboard a special Bahamas Air flight for New York.

Acting governor general, His Excellency Sir Henry Taylor, and acting prime minister, The Honorable Clement T. Maynard, and their wives led the Bahamian delegation at Nassau's international airport to bid Comrade Mugabe farewell. While Bahamas Air maintenance crew paid special attention to detail in preparing the aircraft for departure, Bahamian dignitaries entertained Comrade Mugabe and members of his delegation in the VIP lounge. After the delegation from Zimbabwe had boarded the aircraft, Comrade Mugabe was escorted from the VIP lounge amid tight security. He exchanged best wishes and warmly embraced Minister Maynard and Sir Henry as he strolled along the red carpet to the aircraft.

Before boarding the aircraft, Comrade Mugabe was presented with the flag by NASSAU GUARDIAN photographer Derek Smith with the inscription "Its Better in the Bahamas." Endorsing this sentiment, Comrade Mugabe raised the flag above his head and gave a final wave ending 4 days of a state visit to the Bahamas.

Barbados

Minister Issues Warning to Latin America

FL2209122388 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Dane Nita Barrow of Barbados is expressing optimism in the face of her defeat Tuesday in the race for the presidency of the United Nations but the foreign minister of Barbados, Sir James Tudor, has issued a warning to Latin America.

That warning was for them to change their attitude to the English-speaking Caribbean. Sir James said that if Latin American countries continue to decline or to change their ways when it came to sharing top positions in international organizations, the English-speaking nations would be left with no alternative but to persue their own course of action.

Haiti

Soldiers Remove More Officers at General Hqs

FL2209145788 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2000 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Today the soldiers also booted out several high-ranking Army officers from the General Headquarters, such as Colonel Gary Leon, (Williams Avin), Lieutenant Colonel Philippe Carrenard, and Lieutenant (Claude Marc). [passage omitted]

The soldiers fired their guns until Col Leon and Col Carrenard left the General Headquarters. [passage omitted] The soldiers are also asked that Col [as heard] (Claude Marc) and Col (Williams Avin) leave the General Headquarters. Luckily they did not show up today. [passage omitted]

We must point out that while this was happening at the General Headquarters, soldiers were still bringing in other officers. A while ago they brought in Lieutenant Colonel Roger Augustin, who was in the Engineers Corps. They say they don't want him. There is another man from the Engineers Corps, who was a minister in the Namphy government, Colonel Alphonse Desulme. The soldiers say they are looking for him.

We point out that many other officers have been removed from both the capital and the provinces inside the General Headquarters. [passage omitted] Colonel Gambetta Hyppolite, who was in the Artibonite, is one of them. [passage omitted]

Arrests Reported

FL2209160788 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2000 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Report from Jeremie correspondent]

[Excerpts] There were a a number of demonstrations and arrests all over the place in Jeremie on Wednesday. At around 0730, a small group of people assembled in front of the residence of Luc Felix, who was a deputy under Manigat and who became development advisor for the Grand Anse under General Namphy. He who founded a group called Club Fraternite to support General Namphy in Jeremie. The group in front of his house was determined to get Felix this morning. Felix fired a few rounds to defend himself. Then the police came and arrested him and his whole family and took them away to the barracks. [passage omitted]

Military leaders were purged and arrested. Serge Toussaint, commander of the military department, was arrested. District Commander (Jacques Siclait Dolce) was replaced by (Jean Marc Laurent Possible). Lieutenant (Kochlain Jerome Leroi) was made commander of the tactical units and (Jean Eric Marcellus) the departmental adjutant.

Soldiers arrested and dropped off at the barracks the representative of the Department of the Public Prosecutor, (Jean Belavoix Leone); Prefect Louis Antoine; and the public works payroll man, whom they found hidden under the bed of a colleague, Jean Rouzier.

Also arrested were (Richelin Mercure), (Marcule Appolon), and a certain "Ti Pizo," who is wanted for questioning regarding possible arson charges.

The soldiers group is becoming very big; they are marching up and down the streets and firing into the air. The public is yelling vivas. [passage omitted] That is how things are in Jeremie this morning. [passage omitted]

St Marc Commander Removed

FL2209153588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The soldiers at the St Marc garrison last night removed their commanding officer, Captain Ernst Ravix, who is considered to be against the new military government of General Prosper Avril and in favor of deposed president General Henri Namphy.

The troops have named Lieutenant (Henri Nicolas) to replace Capt Ravix, who is back in Port-au-Prince. [passage omitted]

Soldiers Beat 17 Sep Coup Supporters in St Marc

FL2209165488 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2000 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Excerpts] We are now going to hear from St Marc, where, as we said, there is a movement against the coup taking place. This morning the St Marc soldiers beat many people at the church who were demonstrating their support for the soldiers who carried out the 17 September's coup d'etat. Also, on the walls of St Marc is written: "Down with Avril" and "Down with the Church." Let's listen.

[Reporter] A source who has asked to remain anonymous told us that Prefect Baguidy Grand-Pierre and Corporals Napoleon and Kebreau, who are accused of being the perpetrators of the Labadie massacre, are hiding at the houses of St Marc's most high-ranking military authorities.

This morning at around 1100, a crowd of people had begun sounding the bells of the Catholic church to indicate the beginning of the demonstration. Two military trucks filled with tear gas grenades and many other

unpleasant things showed up at the church; the soldiers beat many of the demonstrators. They attacked the sacristan, at whom they pointed a rifle. They arrested a young man named Eric [name indistinct].

Before the demonstration, the former area deputy, who is the current development advisor for the area—Mr Hughes Brun--almost fell into the hands of the crowd. He returned to the Boulevard La Liberte at around 0800 today after the crowd almost got him yesterday. He was accompanied by two truckloads of soldiers. He declared to the demonstrators that he was unafraid. What you thought yesterday was incorrect, he said.

The Army did a lot of shooting to prevent the crowd from approaching City Hall from where they intended to remove town Magistrate (Rochnel Jules). He is also the president of the thugs.

Many slogans written in big letters could be read on the walls in St Marc, such as: "Long live Bergrome, a democrat," "Down with the church," "(?The prefecture) doesn't want the Prosper Avril coup d'etat," and "Down with lieutenant (?generals)." This should give you an idea of the situation in town.

Several demonstrators with whom we spoke informed us that the Club Verite group of thugs just received a shipment of heavy caliber weapons, which the captain gave them, to use for their own protection. The demonstrators are demanding that both civilians and the military come clean in St Marc. Now they are asking for help from the men in Port-au-Prince. [passage omitted]

Soldier Denounces Officers, Comments on Weapons
FL2209220888 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In a message he read at our microphone, a soldier from the Presidential Guard has denounced the behavior of certain officers from a certain military garrison. According to the soldier, those officers are not in favor of Saturday's coup d'etat during which the noncommissioned officers and enlisted men put Prosper Avril in power. In the name of his fellow soldiers, he thanked the press for its good work in raising awareness, and thanked the Haitian people, too, for remaining calm and for their political maturity. Lastly, he asked the public to trust the soldiers. We chose Prosper Avril, he said, because we know him well.

[Begin recording] [Soldier] [Passage omitted] This work to raise the level of awareness reached even the Army, principally the Presidential Guard, and that is what has allowed us to do this big job for the country today. We feel really sorry for any Army corps that might choose not to stand on the side of the people. They would do better to simply drop their weapons on the ground and go home.

I am saying this because I know from a well-informed source that there are certain officers in a certain military camp who have said that if they were the ones in the palace, they would have us shot. They even threatened soldiers in the camp. They say we carried out the coup d'etat because we harbor ambitions. In any case, we are sorry but they can forget this business of shooting us!

We understand their position. It is because they are in favor of all the criminal acts the other macoutes like themselves were committing in Haiti. How could they ever be on our side? [passage omitted]

We take this opportunity to send the Haitian people a message, especially those far away who may not have yey accepted our choice. We ask them to trust us. If we chose Mr Avril, it is because we have been with him a long time and we know who he is. There is no question of personal interests or favoritism or anything like that. That is why we continue to ask him not to forget to apply the Constitution and to organize free elections, once peace prevails. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Can you tell us what military camp the officers made that statement at [words indistinct]?

[Soldier] No, for political reasons, we will not say what military camp it is.

[Reporter] [Passage omitted] Are the enlisted men at that military camp in agreement with the officers' statements?

[Soldier] No, on the contrary. I told you that the officers threatened them. That is why the soldiers had to come to the palace this morning—last night, actually. The officers said they would shoot them, and stuff like that. They said that if it was them in the palace they would have us shot—but that is just talk. They couldn't get away with it. [passage omitted]

The president sent for a delegation from the camp this morning to solve the camp's problems. It's just that the officers are giving us a little hassle. We don't consider it a major problem. Nevertheless, a delegation from the camp came to meet with the president this morning to solve the problems of the camp. So, we know they will (?settle down). It is because they were in the macoute camp and cannot change abruptly that they are acting like this. However, we think that as time passes, military men are sure to reach an understanding.

[Reporter] How do you feel about the idea of demonstrations in support of the Army?

[Soldier] We approve 100 percent, but there is a danger in it. [passage omitted] We ask the people to be very prudent because the macoutes have many weapons in their hands. They had time to deliver many weapons to them. The macoutes might infiltrate them and try to commit criminal actions—kill people and so forth. That is the only thing we are afraid of. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Have measures to begin collecting these weapons been taken? [passage omitted]

[Soldier] Well, for the time being, we the soldiers have personally begun taking our own measures. We are searching everywhere we know those macoutes were, in order to collect weapons from them. As for the Army chiefs, we suppose that they are going to take measures too, to organize searches at people's houses throughout the capital, to recover weapons. [passage omitted]

I suppose this collection of weapons from the macoutes will be done nationwide because things cannot continue like this. Haiti must be allowed to live in peace. [passage omitted]

I would like to send a message to all my fellow soldiers. First, be careful, because the macoutes are out there, and they are numerous and they have weapons. [passage omitted] Also, this shooting all over the place is dangerous to us. We must remain silent, so that if the macoutes shoot, we will know it is a macoute shooting. But if we shoot all the time, when a macoute shoots, we will not know that it is a macoute shooting. So I would like to ask all Army soldiers to stop shooting, so the population can get some sleep in peace and also so that when a macoute fires, we can identify him. [end recording]

New Police Chief Appointed in Port-au-Prince

PA2309001088 Paris AFP in Spanish 2330 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 22 Sep (AFP)—General Prosper Avril's government today announced the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel George Valcin as the new police chief in Port-au-Prince.

One of Valcin's jobs will be to split the police corps from the Army and turn it into a separate professional force, as the troops have demanded and as established in the 1987 Constitution, military sources said.

The new police chief of Port-au-Prince recently completed a 1-year training course with the French Gendarmerie.

Valcin is replacing General Gregoire Figaro, who has ties to the overthrown General Henri Namphy and was retired last Tuesday by Gen Avril.

PDCH Leader Sylvio Claude Calls for Unity

FL2209221588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The Confederation for Democratic Unity held a press conference this morning. [passage omitted] (Smoy) interviewed Rev Sylvio Claude, leader of the PDCH [Haitian Christian Democratic Party] in connection with the business of Jean Paul Duperval [member of KID, Confederation for Democratic Unity], who was attacked by an unidentified man last night. [passage omitted]

Making a statement on this attack, PDCH leader Sylvio Claude said: Political leaders and members of democratic groups are still at risk because the well-known perpetrators of the 29 November massacre are still free and are being protected by certain Army units. Sylvio Claude attributes the attack on Jean Paul Duperval to the macoute sector.

[Begin Claude recording, in Creole] When I say the macoutes are criminals, I do not mean to say that they are criminals because they are Duvalierists. Everyone knows that there are exceptions to every rule, that there are indeed exceptions. But I am saying that in general, macoutes, Duvalierists, are criminals. But there are exceptions. I know the people who are exceptions will not be mad at hearing me say this.

Now, what have we noticed? That they react, and they react in such a manner as to attain their objectives. But what most attracts my attention is that I have learned that they went to uproot certain very big bigshots, people who participated in the 29 November massacre, and that certain Army units asked the soldiers to not touch those people. And everyone knows who the big candidates who carried out the 29 November massacre are. There are some four or five of them. Well, up to the present, they are being left in peace.

When this kind of Duvalierists, criminals like that... [changes thought] if there is a serious uprooting going on... [changes thought] we are not asking them to go kill them, but they should do as they are doing with the Army officers. Take them and put them in prison and also take away the weapons they have at home. Up to the present, these men have weapons caches at home. And as long as you leave them there, the uprooting is incomplete.

If the minor ones are being killed—and watch out, don't misinterpret me. I am not asking that people not do their jobs. But it is not just the minor ones—and I would like to ask the population—allow me to ask this. Again, please don't misinterpret me. I would like for the population to, instead of killing them, capture them and turn them over to the police. [end recording]

Sylvio Claude, who signed a joint communique with the PAIN—which is the National Agricultural and Industrial Party—asking for the government to limit itself to a maximum term of 6 months and to, among other things, reestablish a provisional electoral council within 3 months, also talked about how the political parties ought to organize themselves in order to give proof of unity following the recent events.

[Begin Claude recording, in Creole] This is one of our biggest problems. Each man is defending a petty interest. For example, my position is a very categorical one. But the other guys, who—for example, moderation is a fine quality, but there are some whose moderation is not disinterested, people who do not want to attack such-and-such a person because that person might be useful to them tomorrow, to put them in power, or to hold elections in their favor. Thus, I am almost always standing alone. And this is how things have been ever since I began the struggle. Now, we have tried several times to achieve unity, but... [changes thought] OK, for example right now, as we talk, the diaspora is trying to—has come in as an intermediary because I recently brought this problem up with the diaspora. I asked them to serve as an intermediary so that unity among the political leaders here could be achieved. I myself made that appeal to the diaspora less than 5 days ago. I asked them to serve as intermediaries, to see if unity might not be attained. They responded. They said (?they were trying). Well, you will notice that—and I am not accusing anyone, but—the note I sent to Dejoie was signed by myself only. And then Dejoie also signed it. Nevertheless, I await all the others. It is not too late for them to send their notes of support, so that unity can be (?solid). Because this is what the soldiers are asking of us. If they are asking this of us, we simply must get together! And by getting together, we will be helping them, helping the soldiers keep watch, to make sure that these heavy-duty criminals don't do them in tomorrow! Because—and listen carefully, here! —the work the soldiers are doing is extremely delicate. And I know, I am sure, that they know it. Now, if they leave these bigshots loose, on the pretext that they cannot touch them, then they are going to be in danger. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Thus, Sylvio Claude appeals to Haiti's other political groups for unity.

KID Meets With Avril, Hebreux, Postpones Rally

FL2209214088 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] The Confederation for Democratic Unity [KID] announced this morning in a communique that after a meeting yesterday at the National Palace with General Prosper Avril, the head of the new military government, and with Sergeant Joseph Hebreux, the noncommissioned officer who led the coup, KID has decided to postpone the demonstration it was to stage this morning in front of the St Jean Bosco Church until later. This demonstration was going to be held in support of the movement of the Haitian Army soldiers and noncoms.

[Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole at 1100 GMT on 22 September notes that KID has asked the church "where they have put Father Aristide. The Haitian people want to hear him, want to see him. This is the only way to dispel all kinds of awful rumors circulating."]

Also, the Unified Party of Haitian Communists, PUCH, announces that it has not called on all its members and sympathizers to participate in the scheduled demonstration. This press release from the PUCH is signed by Max Bourjolly, the PUCH's number two man.

'Criminals' Taking Advantage of Situation

FL2209212388 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpt] We have reports that armed individuals are attempting to spread fear and panic among the population. These individuals enter people's houses, steal everything and threaten people's lives. These professional criminals are taking advantage of the current situation in Haiti—where the opportunities for criminal activities are great—to engage in criminal action. Therefore, we are asking the forces of order to be more vigilant.

We have found that many of these armed individuals are dressing in military clothing to fool people into thinking they are members of the Armed Forces so that they can get into people's houses to commit criminal acts. As long as the situation remains as it is at present, many dishonest people are taking advantage of the situation to dress as soldiers so that they can do things to get the Haitian Army criticized.

There is a communique from the Ministry of Interior and National Defense to the same effect:

The Ministry of Interior and National Defense informs the general public that strict formal orders have been given to the forces of order to arrest anyone—anyone at all, regardless of the person's former position—who is found committing criminal acts and pillaging in Haiti. Anyone caught engaging in criminal action in Haiti will be sent before the courts and punished according to the law.

This communique from the Ministry of Interior and National Defense is signed by Colonel Carl Dorsainville, Haitian Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

Salinas Meets With Justices, Labor, Peasants

PA2209161488 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Sep 88 pp 1-A, 10-A

[Article by Nidia Marin and Fausto Marquez]

[Excerpts] The arbitrary and capricious use of power has been uprooted from the country, President-Elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari said. He also said that there can be no development, progress, or democracy if there is injustice and lawlessness.

Salinas de Gortari pledged to uphold the law in his government and to govern the country with justice and equality. He also promised to prevent the new pluralism from creating divisions and national weakness.

Salinas de Gortari, who made these statements before Supreme Court justices, was also greeted yesterday in his offices at 90 Cracovia by Labor Congress leaders, whom he informed that modernization—the backbone of his policy—will not take place without the participation of the working sector. "The workers will implement the great changes we will promote," he said.

Salinas de Gortari also told the representatives of the National Peasant Confederation, who showed up at his offices later: "We cannot hope for effective modernization if we do not modernize Mexico's rural areas. The peasants' hard work and solidarity has been demonstrated in the context of the important political, social, and economic changes experienced by Mexico in the last few decades, even though the peasants' efforts have not been duly compensated." [passage omitted]

During his first morning of activities as president-elect, Carlos Salinas de Gortari received the Supreme Court justices, headed by Carlos del Rio, their president.

Before they arrived, Salinas de Gortari stated his constitutionalist principles and his commitment and desire to strengthen the de jure state and to act at all times and under any circumstances in strict compliance with the law and with absolute respect for the judicial branch. [passage omitted]

Salinas de Gortari said that the law is the only valid instrument for guaranteeing peaceful coexistence within society and providing security and justice for all Mexicans. That is why the civilized conflict of interests which arise in everyday life have to be resolved in the courts as the law demands. The law must be respected by all citizens, especially authorities.

Salinas de Gortari promised that as soon as he is sworn in as president, he will do everything within his legal powers to preserve the autonomy of the judicial branch and to increase its efficiency.

Subsequently, the president-elect pointed out to the Labor Congress leaders, headed by Jorge Sanchez, that in view of the people's decision expressed at the polls and confirmed by the Chamber of Deputies: "All the different political forces must now rise to the occasion and act with the proper maturity." [passage omitted]

Salinas de Gortari reaffirmed his resolve to respect the people's wishes in order to ensure unity and national sovereignty. He said that it was for this reason that he called on the Mexican people to make an additional political effort so that a more respectful, civilized, and constructive democratic coexistence will come about; this will benefit all and strengthen the country.

Salinas de Gortari said that he will respond to the fair demands made by the workers to increase real wages, to find solutions to their housing problems, to provide them with better living conditions, and especially to provide them with a better education for their children. [passage omitted]

Salinas de Gortari pledged to promote the alliance between workers and the government, which has been an important factor in guaranteeing social peace, political stability, and Mexico's institutional continuity, which today is an essential element for the country's security. [passage omitted]

6-Year Foreign Investment Figures Released

PA2209183088 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 19 Sep 88 p 13

[Excerpts] Direct foreign investment authorized for this country in the current 6-year period has increased by $11.126 billion, so that, by the end of this administration, it will total $21.912 billion, according to reports issued by the Bank of Mexico and the Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development. [passage omitted]

A breakdown of the type of activities in which the cumulative $21.912 billion was invested is as follows: 73.6 percent went to the manufacturing industry; 19 percent to services; 6 percent to commerce; 1.6 percent to the oil and mining industries; and the rest to the agricultural sector. [total exceeds 100 percent as published]

By the country of origin, the reports indicate that there has been no significant change. In first place is capital from the United States, $14.2428 billion, or 65 percent; second is investment from the FRG with 1.4681 billion, or 6.7 percent; and third is Japan, with approximately 1.2052 billion, or 5.5 percent of direct foreign investment in Mexico.

The remaining 22.8 percent, or $4.9959 billion, comes from at least nine other countries, including, in order of importance, Great Britain, Switzerland, Spain, France, Sweden, and Canada. [passage omitted]

El Salvador

FMLN Attack Leaves 15 Troops, 11 Rebels Dead

PA2209171888 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1500 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Report by Walter Hernandez]

[Text] Good morning. We have a last minute report. At least 15 military men and 11 FMLN guerrillas were killed at dawn during a guerrilla attack against the Cerro El Aguacate military base located at Corinto in northeastern Morazan Department. We repeat: At least 15 military men and 11 FMLN guerrillas were killed during a guerrilla attack against the Cerro El Aguacate military base at Corinto in northeastern Morazan Department. A Coprefa spokesman gives the details:

[Begin recording] [Spokesman] Fifteen military men and several FMLN guerrillas were killed today in an attack against military positions in Cerro El Aguacate, Corinto, Morazan. The attack began at 0100 and lasted 2 hours. Salvadoran Air Force units came to provide support in the pursuit of the guerrillas. Among the troops killed is Lieutenant Jose Carlos Larios Alvarez, who, along with his men, repelled numerous guerrillas who used rifle fire to attack the military base. That is all we have at this time.

[Hernandez] How would you describe the situation there right now?

[Spokesman] The Army has the situation under control.

[Hernandez] Where exactly did this take place?

[Spokesman] This action against Army troops took place at their positions in Cerro El Aguacate. [end recording]

FMLN on Attack

PA2309021388 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0012 GMT 23 Sep 88

["War bulletin" issued by the FMLN in El Salvador on 22 September]

[Text] At 0100 on 22 September, FMLN guerrilla forces carried out revolutionary operation "Everybody to Fight, Death to the Duartist Dictatorship," attacking, occupying, and destroying the El Aguacate strategic communications base located in Morazan Department.

Our revolutionary forces began the attack at 0100 and completed it at 0300. As a result of the attack, the artillery section of the Morazan Battalion as well as a large number of its troops were annihilated. The Morazan Battalion troops were guarding the enemy's strategic communications base.

In this devastating attack, our forces killed 20 Army men and injured 43, for a total of 63 casualties. Lieutenant Jose Carlos Larios, chief of a Morazan Battalion company belonging to Military Detachment No 4, was killed in the attack. The aforementioned company was guarding the Aguacate communications base.

In the attack we seized the following war materiel: 5 M-16 rifles, 10 [words indistinct], 4 Law M-72 rocket launchers, 1 81-mm mortar, 40 grenades for 40-mm mortars, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 1 PRC-77 communication radio, and 20 backpacks.

In response to our operation, the enemy carried out several deployment operations in the area using seven helicopters [words indistinct] UH-1H [words indistinct].

Long live our succesful operation "Everybody to Fight, Death to the Duartist Dictatorship."

El Salvador, 22 September

UNTS Letter to U.S. Congress on 'Repression'

PA2309030788 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 19 Sep 88 p 19

["Open Letter to U.S. Congress" from National Union of Salvadoran Workers, (UNTS)—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Honorable U.S. Congressmen: With all due respect, the Salvadoran labor oranizations and popular sectors hereby inform you in detail of the repressive measures taken by the Salvadoran Government and the Armed Forces High Command against our organizations, their leaders, and rank and file with equipment supplied by your country's current administration. [passage omitted]

The latest repressive measures taken this month against the labor and people's organizations represent an escalation of repression on the basis of a plan drafted by the Armed Forces High Command and the U.S. Embassy to comply, in the first place, with repeated requests from the leadership of the National Association of Private Enterprise and senior leaders of the Christian Democratic Party and Nationalist Republican Alliance; and, second, to destroy the labor and people's organizations that are demanding actions in regard to the grievances presented by the labor organizations and majority groups. Basically, these repressive measures represent a refusal to meet the urgent needs expressed by these groups. One of the key elements used to enforce this plan is the battalions of antiriot police who are sent out with loudspeakers and a great deal of equipment to suppress demonstrations, regardless of how peaceful they are. It is obvious from their actions that their orders are to fire at, arrest, torture, and make demonstrators disappear.

The brutal, nighttime military occupation of the headquarters of unions and people's organizations by hooded plainclothesmen using terror tactics and without court orders and by military personnel with the gear necessary to make detainees disappear, to destroy and steal property at will, to beat newsmen to keep them from bearing witness to their brutality, and to intimidate and terrorize the civilian population only reflects the desperation of the military leaders. These tactics bring into question the "professionalism" of the Armed Forces, which have been trained to kill, to torture, to make people disappear, and to obey orders from the Reagan administration regardless of the pain they inflict on the people of this country, the difficult situation faced by owners of small- and medium-sized businesses, and the real meaning of the term national sovereignty.

On 12 September, 6th Infantry Brigade troops and troops of the elite Atonal Battalion stationed in Usulutan Department, under the command of Colonel Inocente Montano and the Berlin City national police, brutally attacked 500 demonstrators. The demonstrators were left homeless after the recent flooding in Usulutan Department. They were protesting because the government had not provided any aid, food, or material to build temporary housing. During the attack, 15 people were injured, and 8 were arrested, 5 of whom were subsequently released.

On 13 September, members of the 2d Infantry Brigade stationed in Santa Ana under the command of Colonel Benjamin Ramos and members of the national police violently attacked a peaceful demonstration by students of the western branch of the University of El Salvador, who were demanding an increase in the university budget. As a result of the attack, 100 students were arrested, 15 were shot or otherwise wounded, and dozens were beaten with blunt objects. The authorities recently denied arresting 40 of the 100 people who were detained.

Also on 13 September, 1st Infantry Brigade troops, antiriot police, and military men dressed in civilian clothes attacked a university student demonstration in downtown San Salvador. The students were demanding a bigger budget for the university. As a result of the attack, over 350 students were arrested, of whom approximately 120 remain in jail, 100 were injured, and 1 policeman was killed. [passage omitted]

At noon on 13 September, members of the 1st Infantry Brigade tried to forcibly enter the UNTS offices. There were 28 Salvadorans, including employees and union members; a 2-year-old girl; and 12 foreigners, including 10 U.S. citizens, in the offices at the time. [passage omitted]

If all the misery and suffering that most people in our country have been experiencing is not enough to make the U.S. Government understand that its millions of dollars have only caused corruption, hunger, death, and suffering, the events we are recounting in this letter must be taken into account so that your Congress will conduct a detailed investigation of the systematic and planned violation of human and labor rights that most of the Salvadoran people are experiencing. Based on that investigation, the U.S. Congress should decide to stop all forms of aid to the Salvadoran Government until a political solution to the national crisis and the armed conflict is achieved. [passage omitted]

For national peace, justice, and sovereignty.

[Signed] UNTS Executive Committee [passage omitted containing the names of the people and organizations that received a copy of the letter]

Nicaragua

Ortega Trip to UN, OAS Canceled; U.S. Blamed

Tinoco Announcement

PA2309003788 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2349 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Statement by Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco at a news conference in Managua on 22 September—live or recorded]

[Text] Good afternoon, journalists. We have called you this afternoon to tell you of some decisions concerning the situation as a result of the issue of the visas that should be granted to President Daniel Ortega and his delegation so they can visit the United Nations and the OAS. The situation is as follows:

First, on 13 September, the Nicaraguan Government, the Foreign Ministry, presented to the U.S. Embassy in Managua the request for visas for the members of President Ortega's delegation. That delegation is comprised of President Ortega, a number of ministers and journalists, Comrade Rosario Murillo, and (?all) of Commander Ortega's children. The U.S. Embassy was also notified that President Ortega had to leave for New York on 24 September.

This afternoon, the U.S. Embassy presented to the Foreign Ministry only the visas for President Ortega and his security team. The U.S. Embassy also announced that visas would not be granted before 24 September to the ministers, including [Planning Minister] Martinez Cuenca, and [Information Minister] Manuel Espinoza, the journalists who would accompany the president, Comrade Rosario Murillo, and the president's children. This is what the U.S. Embassy announced today.

In view of this, the Nicaraguan Government would like to point out the following: Section 12 of the agreement between the United Nations and the host country—the United States—states the following: The duties of the host country must be enforced in each of the existing relations between the host country and the applicant country. That is, the agreement—which is a U.S. law

because it is approved by the U.S. Congress—states in Section 12 that bilateral relations must in no way interfere with the relations between the applicant country and the United Nations. Moreover, the agreement between the United Nations and the United States states in Section 13: Visas will be granted free of charge and as soon as possible.

It is evident that the Reagan administration has no right to not only postpone the granting of visas to President Daniel Ortega's delegation, but to decide who will or will not be in the delegation. This is a completely arbitrary and illegal decision by the U.S. Government. I repeat: The Nicaraguan Government believes this attitude assumed by the United States is arbitrary and illegal. It is a violation of Nicaragua's right to be represented at the United Nations and the OAS.

This arbitrary decision made by the U.S. Government adversely affects the independence and legal framework of the United Nations.

In view of this situation, the Nicaraguan Government has decided to suspend President Daniel Ortega's trip to the United Nations and to the OAS. We have proceeded to take the appropriate legal steps to file the appropriate charges at international organizations in accordance with international law and existing treaties between the United Nations and member countries.

Foreign Ministry Communique

PA2309041988 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0321 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry in Managua on 22 September]

[Text] On 13 September, requests were presented at the U.S. Embassy in Managua for visas for the president and the delegation that would attend the 43d session of the UN General Assembly. The embassy was notified that the trip had to be made on 24 September and that President Ortega would also attend a session of the OAS Permanent Council on 29 September.

On 22 September, the U.S. Embassy only granted visas to the president and his security team, indicating that the other visas would not be issued before the scheduled date of departure.

This illegal and arbitrary conduct flagrantly violates the UN Charter and the agreement among the world's nations signed on 26 June 1947 in regard to the host country agreement between the United States and the United Nations. Such an action is a violation of Article 4 of the agreement on the headquarters site. Its Section 13 establishes that the laws and regulations on the entry of foreigners into the United States cannot be applied in such a way as to inhibit the prerogatives established in Section 11, which states that the host country cannot in any way hinder the entrance and exit of the member countries' representatives in the district where the headquarters is located.

The U.S. Government is also not fulfilling what is established in the last part of Paragraph A of the aforementioned Section 13, which states that visas will be granted free of charge and as soon as possible.

Therefore, the U.S. Government's conduct seriously affects the independence and the multilateral nature of the organization, taking to the sphere of international organizations actions which are linked to bilateral issues. It must be recalled that in accordance with Article 4, Section 12, of the agreement, its provisions will be applied, regardless of the existing relations with the host country.

This situation constitutes a virtual negation of Nicaragua's right to be represented in the United Nations through unacceptable limitations or impositions. The measure sets a dangerous precedent that harms the legal framework of the organization. These events affect the sovereignty of countries and the UN member countries' inalienable right to appoint, without obstacles or any kind of interference, the members of their delegations.

In the face of this unacceptable situation for the Nicaraguan delegation, the Foreign Ministry announces that Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, president of the Republic, has canceled his trip to the United Nations and to the OAS because of the attitude adopted by the U.S. Government, which has again shown its total refusal to act in accordance with international law.

Managua, 22 September 1988

Reaction to Remarks by House Speaker Wright

Political Sectors Comment

PA2309023288 [Editorial Report] Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish at 1930 GMT on 22 September carries several reports on reactions by Nicaraguan opposition leaders regarding statements made by Speaker of the House Jim Wright on CIA involvement with the Nicaraguan opposition.

The first report presents statements by Independent Liberal Party leader Jaime Bonilla, who denies having ever received money from the CIA, as Wright has reportedly charged in the U.S. House of Representatives. Bonilla pointed out: "My party has never received aid from any U.S. Government agency, much less from the CIA." Bonilla added: "It is important for the U.S. Government, the Nicaraguan Government, and political parties themselves to investigate this because an accusation of this type may damage the prestige of the Nicaraguan opposition or the parties that are members of the Democratic Coordinating Board."

In the second report, Nicaraguan Socialist Party Deputy Domingo Sanchez Salgado said he believes it is true that the CIA has been involved in Nicaraguan internal affairs. Sanchez said: "I believe the statements made by this senator [as heard] are true. Without a doubt the CIA has been involved in activities aimed at toppling the government. It has done so in Guatemala, Chile, Panama, and even in Nicaragua."

Meanwhile, Democratic Conservative Party Deputy Gerardo Alfaro Silva said he does not rule out the possibility that the parties of the Democratic Coordinating Board are involved in the CIA plan, known as the Melton plan. He said the Democratic Conservative Party members will publicly protest U.S. interference. Alfaro said: "We reject these actions from abroad because we cannot depend on foreign policies, such as the one implemented by the United States in Nicaragua. I have always condemned these types of policies and the Democratic Conservative Party rejects them as well."

Armando Zambrana Fonseca, assistant secretary general of the Social Christian Party [PSC] faction led by Agustin Jarquin Anaya, said Speaker Wright must show proof of the involvement of the Democratic Coordinating Board parties in the Melton plan. Zambrana said: "I believe the first thing this Mr Wright should do is to mention a few names, because we, the PSC, are not involved in any Melton plan and we are not interested in having any relations with those organizations mentioned by Wright. Therefore, I believe this is part of a plan to destroy the opposition parties."

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish on 22 September on page 5 also carries reports on reactions by Nicaraguan political sectors on statements made by Speaker Jim Wright.

PSC leader Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro said the Democratic Coordinating Board will hold an emergency session to analyze the statements made by Wright and that he will even suggest that Wright be accused in U.S. courts. Rivas said: "They want to identify us with the CIA just as in the past all opposition leaders were called communists."

Jose Castillo Osejo, leader of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party faction led by Silviano Matamoros and director of Radio Corporacion, was angered by Wright's statements. He said: "Wright is trying to place a smoke screen in front of the accusations made against him by the Republicans."

Carlos Tunnermann, former Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, said that despite all the statements made by the United States, the Nicaraguan Government was fully justified in declaring Ambassador Richard Melton persona non grata on 11 July because the Vienna Convention prohibits diplomats from being involved in the internal affairs of other countries.

Finally, FSLN Deputy Onofre Guevara is cited as saying: "Wright, with his statements, confirms the honesty with which the FSLN has been reporting the aggression in all its forms."

'Nothing New'

PA2209132788 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 Sep 88 p 3

[Editorial: "A Footnote to the 'Melton Plan'"]

[Text] Jim Wright, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, has really revealed nothing new in his statements on U.S. Government agents' involvement in anti-government demonstrations in Nicaragua, "aimed at provoking arrests." Nicaraguan authorities had adamantly condemned and documented these actions when they dismantled the "Melton plan." The only thing that Wright adds to the evidence, as a footnote, is an official confirmation from Melton's own men.

The Democratic leader said: "We have obtained clear testimony from people working for the CIA who claim their actions were purposefully aimed at making the Sandinist government react strongly."

Could it be that those U.S. officials are disguised Sandinist agents who wish to discredit the "peaceful opposition?" This might serve as the right wing's sole defense. But extremist rhetoric cannot hide the fact that the provocations at El Calvario, Masaya, Nandaime—even the very prisoners that the right wing now wishes to portray as victims—all fit perfectly into the CIA's plot.

If the right wing now feels devoid of authority because it has been disqualified as an alleged national opposition force by the Americans themselves, that is a problem they should solve directly with the U.S. Embassy. After all, the U.S. Congress and the CIA keep giving them dollars and our "opponents" must pay the political cost of that union with the loss of their prestige.

Please do not continue making fools of yourselves by requesting further permission to go out into the streets to provoke the authorities. We have heard that story before.

Reagan Confirms Charges

PA2309041588 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Sep 88 p 1

[Unattributed Article: "Wright's Secret: Opposition for Hire"]

[Text] The violent reaction by LA PRENSA and the politicians of the "Coordinating Board" against Jim Wright following his revelations of CIA confessions of its clandestine operations in Nicaragua is, to a certain extent, fairly understandable. The right was caught "with its hand in the cookie jar" in a plot with the CIA and must desperately find a scapegoat to deflect attention from the affair. This is the reason for all the shouting

against the U.S. Congress democratic leader and the shameful silence in regard to what Wright only confirmed: CIA agents are the ones who direct opposition activities in Nicaragua.

The smoke screen, however, was partially cleared by President Reagan himself. Yesterday the octogenarian president did not even dare to deny Wright's statements but criticized him for "leaking" intelligence. He made official at the highest level the CIA evidence that Wright revealed.

Did "Speaker" Wright break any law by revealing that CIA agents intervened in Nicaragua's domestic affairs? Or is it rather that the real lawbreakers are those in Washington who make policy and in Managua those who betray the homeland by supporting Yankee intervention?

Nicaraguans have no reason to meddle in the domestic affairs of the United States, but we cannot see what sins Reagan and Wright committed by publicly recognizing what the International Court of Justice confirmed in a 1986 decision.

What is really intolerable is that U.S. intervention has not yet ceased, as the CIA confessions confirm.

Equally shameful is the attitude of antinational rightists who pretend to be innocent victims when it is they who conspire with the CIA to whip up hate, subversion, and disorder. Now that they have been unmasked, it is useless for them to declare themselves "threatened" and complain about Wright. It is to our people and our laws that they are accountable to for their actions.

Opposition Reaction Viewed

PA2209232188 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 22 Sep 88 pp 1, 8

[Editorial: "Tacit Confession"]

[Text] There were, of course, no denials from those mentioned by the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives as the beneficiaries of the Melton plan and CIA puppets. This may be because they do not regard their actions as wrong according to their value system. In addition, they may feel that they must be paid to "defend democracy."

The ridiculous thing is that they are trying to prove that Mr Wright was a Somozist and that, for that reason, he is now a Sandinist. Such logic must have left many of today's opposition leaders dumbfounded. As former Somoza supporters, they are dutifully counterrevolutionaries and anti-Sandinist. They supposedly had to say something not to feel completely overwhelmed.

As for Mr Wright, they seem not to know that up until now no Yankee official or congressman has ever been allergic to dictatorships that guarantee the interests of U.S. imperialism. This is something the Sandinists have always said. One would have to be convinced that Mr Wright is really sympathetic to the Nicaraguan revolution.

But, after all, these gentlemen also have their own private political interests and some idea regarding the dignity of people.

That is why Wright's charge first aims at denouncing his political adversary in the United States and also proves with irrefutable evidence that Sandinism will be eternal in the face of a corrupt and base opposition.

U.S. Reaction Cited

PA2309020988 [Editorial Report] Managua BARRICADA in Spanish on pages 1 and 5 of its 22 September edition publishes two reports datelined Washington concerning the controversy over U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Jim Wright's remarks. The first report, which is approximately 375 words long, is headlined "An Angry Reagan Says: 'It Was Secret'." The report, which is attributed to AFP and EFE, states that President Reagan accused Wright of disclosing secret information but that Reagan "did not deny that he had ordered the CIA to carry out activities to provoke the Nicaraguan Government." The report adds that White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater also refused to comment on whether Reagan ordered measures aimed at provoking the Nicaraguan Government.

The second report, approximately 500 words long, is headlined: "Contras Provoke Wright's Statement; CIA Scandal Shakes Washington; Propaganda Maneuver Against the Democrats?" The report, which is attributed to AFP, EFE, the WASHINGTON TIMES, THE WASHINGTON POST, and THE NEW YORK TIMES, states that a Wright aide said that the speaker's remarks were in response to a question from a WASHINGTON TIMES reporter. The report says that according to the WASHINGTON TIMES, "Wright told three contra leaders with whom he met last week at the capitol that the CIA was involved in the Nandaime demonstration and that he did not care about the release of the imprisoned opposition politicians." The report ends by stating that "the CIA operations in Nicaragua are known worldwide and have been well documented in books by U.S. authors, testimonials, and official documents that have been made public as a result of the contragate scandal."

Borge Links Demonstrations, Contra Aid Vote

PA2209133488 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 Sep 88 p 5

[Text] Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge has stated that he has reliable information indicating that right-wing groups plan to create disturbances, "including opening fire on the police and other actions," if they are permitted to hold a march scheduled for Sunday.

In this way, the minister practically turned down the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board's request to hold a march. He argued that information from state security tells him that "this is linked to the forthcoming discussion in the U.S. Congress for more funds for the contras."

Borge spoke to the national and foreign press at the end of a meeting with leaders of the COPPPAL [Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties] at the Las Mercedes Hotel yesterday. He said the subversive plans are aimed at provoking "bloodshed here" and thus justify the approval of more funds for the aggression.

Borge described the $693,000 that the National Foundation for Democracy (an organization directed by the CIA) has given to the COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], opposition unions, parties, and news media like LA PRENSA and opposition radio stations as illegal and immoral. Answering a question, the minister said the government will see what response it will make to the supply of such funds to the news media.

Commenting on President Ortega's charges that although the contras' offensive military actions have decreased, the espionage flights have increased, Borge said "there must be a reason for the flights. We have to consider the possibility that Reagan is insisting on attacking us. The period during which there is a transition of power is dangerous."

He explained that Reagan could well try to turn over to the new administration a conflictive situation in which one cannot rule out the direct attack that President Ortega mentioned.

He said efforts will continue to try to resume the talks with the contras, even though in Guatemala the mercenary leadership's intransigent position did not permit an agreement.

Borge said the high-level dialogue should logically continue in Managua because it was here where substantial progress was achieved on more than half of the government's proposals.

Borge linked the right wing's insistence in holding a march in Managua to the counterrevolutionary plans, and he recalled that in order to justify the approval of funds, the right wing held a demonstration in Nandaime "to have it reported worldwide that our police used tear gas on the provocateurs."

Questioned by journalists, the interior minister also said he believes Costa Rican President Oscar Arias "supports peace and that Arias was unaware of the existence of a contra hospital in San Jose."

In any case, Borge said that such a hospital really violates the Esquipulas agreement.

Meanwhile, in Washington, the Council of Hemispheric Affairs—which makes serious analyses of U.S. foreign policy—this week published an analysis by former CIA agent David MacMichael, who writes about the danger of a direct intervention in the last stages of the Reagan administration.

He recalled John Poindexter's statement when he was national security adviser in 1986: "If you think Ronald Reagan will leave office while Daniel Ortega is president of Nicaragua, you do not know Ronald Reagan."

MacMichael also said that from the viewpoint of Bush and other Republican candidates, any dramatic action to get rid of Noriega before the elections would be as satisfactory as Daniel Ortega's overthrow would be for Reagan, and they would have the advantage that they would enjoy bipartisan support and it would be less costly from the political and military standpoint.

"Although in the country's current domestic condition an invasion of Nicaragua or a coup in Panama do not seem probable or rational, this does not mean that either of these two actions should be ruled out," the analyst added.

Vice Foreign Minister Talavera Travels to PRC

PA2309031088 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Sep 88 p 2

[Text] Vice Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera yesterday traveled to the PRC at the official invitation of the PRC Government.

During his visit, Vice Foreign Minister Talavera will meet with government and party leaders with whom he will exchange views on the international situation, Central America, and bilateral relations.

He is accompanied by Roger Baldizon, director of the Foreign Ministry's Socialist Countries Department.

Panama

Ritter: U.S. Visa Delay 'Harassment Campaign'

PA2309015088 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Sep 88 pp 1, 6

[Article by Garritt Geneteau]

[Excerpts] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter has described the U.S. Government decision to delay the issuance of U.S. visas for Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency, and for the members of his delegation as childish and as a harassment campaign. [passage omitted]

Minister Ritter said that the Panamanian head of state must travel to the United States on 25 September and that the U.S. Government assured both the U.S. mission

to the United Nations and the UN secretary general that the visas for the minister in charge of the Presidency and his delegation would be granted in time for their trip.

In addition, Minister Ritter was optimistic and said that Ronald Reagan's government would abide by the agreements it signed with the United Nations when the organization was created. The agreements deal with the issuance of visas to those who are scheduled to participate in UN activities. Ritter added that for that reason, the United States must not consider the issuance of the visas to be a favor to Panama.

UN Envoy Comments

PA2209155488 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 22 Sep 88 pp 1, 22

[Text] United Nations, 22 Sep (EFE)—Manuel Solis Palma, Panama's minister in charge of the Presidency, has not yet received a visa to enter the United States, where he is scheduled to speak before the UN General Assembly.

This was reported today by Panama's UN Ambassador Leonardo Kam, who asked UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to renew "as an urgent matter" his efforts to make the U.S. Government "fulfill its international duties toward the organization in a timely manner."

Solis Palma requested the visa 15 days ago, and he is scheduled to be the first speaker at the Assembly on the morning of 27 September.

According to Kam, the delay is "deliberate" and is part of the "psychological war and campaign of harassment the United States is waging against Panama."

The Panamanian representative told EFE that he hopes the U.S. Government will fulfill its international duties and that "good judgment will prevail."

PRD President Denies Negotiations With U.S.

PA2309010188 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2330 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Interview with Carlos Duque, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Duque] We are not aware of any conversations or negotiations with U.S. officials at this time. I do, however, want to add that the Panamanian Government is well disposed to holding any type of conversation about the situation either in Panama or outside the country.

[Reporter] Can you tell us how the government plans to deal with its economic problems?

[Duque] The government is definitely confronting an enormous financial crisis and is considering many options to overcome it. An indication of the government's position in regard to the economic crisis is that, despite the IMF's previous demands, the government has not taken measures to reduce its expenses or its payroll. The government feels that people who did not cause the crisis should not have to pay for it.

Panama is now negotiating with European countries to obtain new sources of unconventional financing. We are awaiting... [changes thought] Economic financing takes a certain amount of time, but we are making progress in this area. The planning and econc olicy minister was recently in Europe, and a commission also visited Washington to try to negotiate a loan—not a U.S. loan but a loan from a European organization that has its offices in Washington—for public works projects in Panama. Negotiations are also being held with Spain and Italy. In this way, the government is looking for ways to overcome the present crisis.

IRHE Union Rejects Agreement With Government

PA2309013488 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2325 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] The IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] workers have rejected the agreements signed by Fenasep [National Federation of Associations of Pubic Employees] and the government. The workers' leader, Isaac Rodriguez, stated the following:

[Begin recording] Although we have not accepted the agreement, the IRHE workers demand that the government release the workers who were arrested, and we will return to work. The wives of our co-workers, who are here with us, have not seen their husbands, and we have been unable to attend to their needs. No charges have been filed against our co-workers, so these arrests violate the Constitution.

This happened before when they arrested me, and we know they do it to subjugate the union leadership. What we are currently demanding is that the government immediately release our co-workers. We have noted that this time the repression has been selective, because all the other public workers who were arrested have been released. This is not the case with the IRHE workers, who are still in jail. We are also aware that the previous IRHE union leadership is attempting to mount a surprise takeover of the union, and they are being supported by IRHE's PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] Political Committee, which presently has members in some top IRHE positions. [end recording]

Education Ministry Closes 12 Secondary Schools

PA2309024388 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0210 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Communique issued by the Education Ministry "tonight"]

[Text] The Education Ministry and the Panamanian community have seen with great concern the growing wave of agitation and disorder in some schools in Panama City and

Colon. This wave has prevented the holding of classes and has created unrest that has not been properly controlled. In order to safeguard the lives of students, teachers, and administrative employees of these schools, and in order to guarantee the completion of the school year, the Education Ministry announces that classes have been suspended until further notice in the following secondary schools: Abel Bravo, Fermin Naudeau, Jose Dolores Moscote, America Institute, Rubiano Institute, Alfredo Canton, Elena Chavez Pinate, Jose Remon Cantera, Isabel Herrera Obaldia Professional School, Panama Commercial School, Richard Neumann, and Colon Professional and Technical Institute.

The days in which these schools are not open will be made up in the future.

University Suspends 23 Sep Activities

PA2309025188 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0222 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Communique issued by the University of Panama in Panama City on 22 September]

[Text] The rector's office of the University of Panama hereby announces to the university campus and to the nation at large that it has decided to suspend classes, as well as all academic and administrative activities, on Friday, 23 September 1988, on the university's main campus. The university has taken this measure to preserve its best interests.

Signed by Rector Dr Abdiel Adames
Octavio Mendez Pereira university campus
22 September 1988

Republican Party Leader Comments on Prison Stay

PA2309044688 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Interview with Republican Party leader Dominador Kaiser Bazan by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Bazan] I believe that my arrest had a political motive. I am a political leader and have been a close friend of President Delvalle for many years. I suppose my arrest is related to these facts and also to the fact that the Republican Party is meeting to coordinate efforts so that the party will not be taken away from us. These facts coincided, and on Friday night they [not further identified] came to look for me here at my residence and took me to Modelo Prison.

[Reporter] How were you treated in Modelo Prison?

[Bazan] I was treated like any other prisoner. I was not given any special privileges. I was treated well. I was not ill-treated at any time. My family, friends, and others were concerned because I was not allowed to communicate with them. On Tuesday afternoon, I was allowed to talk to my wife and, through her, was able to relieve my family's anxieties about my physical condition.

[Reporter] Will your political position change because of this incident?

[Bazan] No. No. It will not vary at all. As I told you previously, I helped organize this party in 1959 initially and again more recently in 1983 and 1984. I have worked hard for the party. My family, especially my father, has worked for this party. My arrest will not change my political or business position. I do, however, believe that we Panamanians have to start to resolve our problems among ourselves as soon as possible so that the country can go back to the democracy that it has always practiced.

Defense Forces Arrest Opposition Figure

PA2209224388 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2225 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Panama City, 22 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Alberto Conte, president of the National Journalists' Association and a businessman linked to the opposition National Civic Crusade, was arrested today, charged with attacking the security of the Panamanian state, his wife, Pilar de Conte, has told ACAN-EFE.

Mrs Conte said her husband was arrested this afternoon when he was in his office in Panama City and taken to the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] military security offices.

Alberto Conte is also president of the Latinoamericana de Publicidad company. Mrs Conte said the FDP raided those offices today.

On 20 October 1987, Conte was arrested at the Omar Torrijos international airport when he returned from Miami on a private flight. He was released 1 week later.

Family sources told ACAN-EFE that Attorney Rogelio Cruz has filed a writ of habeas corpus for Conte.

The military security (G-2) agents who arrested Conte refused to provide any explanations to several journalists who were at Conte's office when he was arrested.

Further on Arrest

PA2209233188 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2308 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Alberto Conte, president of the National Journalists' Association, was arrested this afternoon at his company, Latinoamericana de Publicidad. [passage omitted]

Mrs Conte spoke about her husband's arrest:

[Begin recording] [Conte] I received a telephone call telling me that my husband had been arrested. I just arrived here and DENI [National Department of Investigation] and the G-2 told me he has been arrested, charged with attacking state security, and that his offices are being searched. I imagine they are trying to find something against him. Right now I am going to find my husband's lawyer, Rogelio Cruz, so we can go to the G-2 offices.

[Reporter] Was there an arrest warrant?

[Conte] Yes, they arrested him and took him away handcuffed. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Meanwhile, the National Journalists' Association issued a communique this afternoon expressing its concern over the unexplained arrest of Alberto Conte, its president. It also asked the authorities to release him.

Crusade on Government, FDP 'Arrogant Conduct'

PA2309023588 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2340 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Communique issued by the Civic Crusade in Panama City on 22 September; read by Crusade spokesman Jose Raul Mulino—recorded]

[Text] 1. The civilian government's and the Defense Forces's [FDP] unyielding, illegal, and arrogant conduct when they confronted the just and legitimate demands of the public employees and government unions, as well as the brutal attack against National Institute students, parents, and teachers on Saturday, 17 September, only confirm the military regime's inability to solve the country's serious and complicated problems—problems that have resulted from 20 years of corruption and waste in all our government institutions.

2. The above-mentioned actions are proof that there is a consensus among all sectors of society to demand fundamental changes in the country's leadership to rescue the country from its present institutional chaos.

3. The possibility of a violent clash between Panamanians increases every day and causes deep concern since this would result in a large number of casualties. Violence would also increase the hatred, which is already apparent, against the military.

4. The Defense Forces have the responsibility of stopping the present spiral of violence and tragedy. The armed institution must agree to return to its barracks, oust its current commander, and install a provisional government to return Panama to democracy. The transitional government must begin the work of reconstructing the country with a spirit of reconciliation.

5. The National Civic Crusade presented a transition-to-democracy proposal almost a year ago, and it reaffirms today its willingness to support a consensus agreement that will take the country out of the present tragic situation and make it a country of rights where our people's social and economic well-being will be promoted. To this end, all the opposition forces are willing to lay aside all political interests so that an authentic and solid national unity can be attained.

In light of the above, the National Civic Crusade declares its solidarity with the students who were attacked by the Defense Forces and with the teachers', unions', and public employees' organizations. The Crusade reaffirms its unswerving will to continue this peaceful struggle until Panama has achieved justice, freedom, and a true democratic government.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Effects of Sanctions

PA2209200388 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Panama's Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera warned in Caracas that Panama will be unable to repay its foreign debt until the United States lifts the unjust sanctions imposed in March.

The Panamanian deputy foreign minister, who is attending a SELA ministers' meeting, said the U.S. Government not only has continued the measures taken against Panama but has increased them, causing serious damage and compromising the country's short- and long-term economy.

Cabrera added that Panama does not rule out demanding compensation from the United States over the economic sanctions. He stressed that the foreign debt, which amounts to more than $1.2 billion, cannot be repaid if the necessary revenue does not exist.

Argentina

Alfonsin To Dedicate Nuclear Reactor in Peru

PY2209232988 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1342 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (NA)—President Raul Alfonsin will visit Peru in the first half of December to dedicate the Huarangal nuclear reactor, which was built entirely with Argentine technology.

Alfonsin's visit to Peru was confirmed by Argentine Ambassador to Peru Anselmo Marini, who said that he conveyed to Alfonsin an invitation from Alfonsin's Peruvian counterpart, Alan Garcia.

Marini met with Alfonsin at Government House this morning in a meeting not scheduled on the presidential agenda.

Marini said he briefed Alfonsin on the work being conducted by CNEA experts in Huarangal, located 40 km from Lima.

The work will conclude by the end of October, and it is believed that the 10-megawatt nuclear reactor will be officially dedicated in the first half of December. The reactor, which will produce radioisotopes, will cost $110 million.

Marini also said that he conveyed to Alfonsin a comprehensive report on the Peruvian institutional situation and on the economic plan implemented by the Garcia administration.

Sourrouille Goes to FRG for IMF Meeting

PY2209212788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2032 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (TELAM)—An Argentine delegation led by Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille left today at 1700 for the FRG to attend the IMF annual assembly and a World Bank meeting.

Sourrouille, who left from Ezeiza Airport, was accompanied by Juan Sommer and Daniel Marx, directors of the Argentine Central Bank. [passage omitted]

PRC Commercial Group Arrives for Negotiations

PY2209190788 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] A PRC commercial delegation this morning began negotiations at the Argentine Foreign Ministry, to discuss the possibility of establishing joint ventures.

The PRC delegation arrived in the country at the invitation of the enterprise Pescarmona, which is building an oil pipeline in the PRC.

Teachers Throughout Country Stage 24-Hour Strike

PY2209185788 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Teachers throughout the country today are staging a 24-hour strike organized by the Confederation of Education Workers of the Argentine Republic [CTERA] to demand the prompt enactment of the law creating the national committee in charge of teachers' salaries. This law will be discussed by the Chamber of Deputies today. [passage omitted]

The CTERA members in the Federal Capital and greater Buenos Aires will gather to march to the Congress Building. They will spend this afternoon in front of the Congress Building while the draft law is being discussed.

Only a small number of municipal schools in the Federal Capital and secondary schools under the jurisdiction of the Education Ministry are observing the strike.

Activities at private schools in this capital are taking place normally. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Finance Minister on Debt Renegotiation Efforts

PY2209184388 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Bolivia will seek to effectively renegotiate its foreign debt at the Paris Club meeting that will take place in October, according to Bolivian Finance Minister Ramiro Cabezas. The minister added that Bolivia is currently trying to reach preliminary agreements with its creditor countries in order to resolve some of the problems stemming from its inability to meet obligations.

Minister Cabezas explained that Bolivia is unable to comply with the agreements it has signed, but it is prepared to renegotiate its debt in a way that will allow it to make payments without endangering the country's economic recovery.

Ramiro Cabezas believes that Bolivia is facing serious problems resulting from its difficult economic situation, which precludes it from meeting its obligations, although it truly wants to do so.

According to the minister, the meeting of the Paris Club will be decisive in reaching new accords on the foreign debt and freeing Bolivia from the feeling of being dunned by its creditors.

Preliminary efforts to achieve these objectives will be made at the meeting of IMF and World Bank governors in Berlin this weekend. The Bolivian planning and coordination minister and finance minister will attend this meeting and hold talks with their counterparts from creditor countries.

Urban Teachers Begin General Strike 22 Sep

PY2209183388 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Urban teachers throughout the country have gone on a general and indefinite strike as of 0000 on 22 September. The efforts of the minister of education and culture to prevent this strike have been in vain. Jesus Taboada, a leader of the urban teachers in La Paz, stated:

[Begin recording] The Federation of La Paz Urban Teachers has instructed all public school teachers in La Paz district to comply with the general and indefinite strike beginning 22 September.

This strike has been ordered by the National Confederation of Urban Teachers. [end recording]

Through this strike the urban teachers hope to obtain a 100-percent increase in their base salary.

Brazil

Nobrega on Economic Efforts, Foreign Support

PY2209150888 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] On 22 September, Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega will sign medium-term agreements with the creditor banks in New York. He believes that by signing these agreements, Brazil will enter the fourth stage of the program for its reintegration into the international financial community.

According to Minister Nobrega, all possibilities for the reestablishment of a flow of resources to the country will be analyzed.

[Begin Nobrega recording] This stage will be characterized by the pursuit of solutions not only for the [words indistinct] debt, [words indistinct] of the debt, but also for the reestablishment of a new flow of resources into the country. As is well known, we are negotiating with the Italian and Japanese Governments. We have already started to receive the first expressions of support from the official agencies that finance foreign trade, and we will probably soon be allowed to join the voluntary capital market, [words indistinct] possibly during 1989. [end recording]

The creditor banks have rescheduled the Brazilian debt for a 20-year term, with an 8-year grace period. The risk tax has been reduced from more than 2 percent to 0.8125 percent.

Minister Nobrega also emphasized the importance of the sale of $1 billion in bonds to some 100 banks. These bonds, which were offered by Brazil, will be negotiated as part of the debt.

Minister Nobrega said that the IMF board approved the modernization and adjustment program proposed by the Brazilian Government very quickly.

As to the Paris Club, Minister Nobrega said that several agencies have established financial coverage for Brazilian imports.

The agreements with the creditor banks and the IMF total $100.6 billion.

On New Stage in Debt Talks

PY2309021388 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Sep 88

[By Ana Voytovich]

[Text] Minister Mailson da Nobrega has announced in New York a new stage in the Brazilian foreign debt negotiations.

The main topic of the finance minister's speech, which was delivered at the ceremony for the signing of the agreements on the Brazilian financing plan in New York this morning, was the need to reduce the debt and to reestablish national economic growth.

In the speech, Minister Mailson da Nobrega commented on the normalization of relations with the international financial community. He said these relations should be based not on confrontation, but on cooperation. The Brazilian minister believes that creditors and debtors will gradually realize that the Brazilian debt can be reduced through various mechanisms. Nobrega admits, however, that it would be a mistake to think the agreement signed today is the solution to the Brazilian debt problem.

The agreement signed today calls for the reduction of the debt servicing; it grants the country more resources to be used in new investments and secures its growth. The $1-billion loan recently approved by the IDB demonstrates this.

Minister Mailson da Nobrega said that Brazil's new challenge will be to translate this concept into action as soon as possible by carefully evaluating voluntary market mechanisms under the highlights of the strategy that calls for studying each case individually.

The finance minister leaves New York tonight for Berlin, where he will meet with the Netherlands' finance minister tomorrow afternoon. The Netherlands minister is also chairman of the IMF acting committee [not further identified].

Sodre Denies Cuban Spying; To Go to Portugal
PY2209132888 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre has denied that Cuban Government officials conducted spying operations in Brazil during a scientific expedition in the Amazon region.

A Rio de Janeiro newspaper has published an article on charges by Brasilia University Professor Doris Santos Faria, who asserted that the expedition was used by the Cubans as an excuse to infiltrate spies into the area of the Calha Norte Project [a military project in the Amazon region].

Minister Sodre said there has been no spying, and security officials have given full support to the expedition, which was considered very daring. The researchers ran the risk of being attacked by Indians or drowning in local rivers.

The minister also said that the expedition, which involved the areas of culture and anthropology, was authorized by the Brazilian Government and supported by the Navy.

Sodre added that there has been no cooling of relations between Brazil and Cuba. They continue to be normal, he said.

Minister Sodre leaves for Portugal tonight in the company of 22 Brazilian businessmen who are interested in doing business with Portuguese companies. The objective of this trip is to improve Brazilian access to the European Common Market from 1992.

The Brazilian businessmen also want to increase bilateral trade, which now amounts to only $200 million a year.

Renegotiation of FRG Nuclear Accord Sought
PY2209181588 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Sep 88 p 28

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—John Foreman, president of the Brazilian Nuclear Industries [Industrias Nucleares do Brasil] (INB) tonight will leave for the FRG, very "confident" that the German enterprises Interatom, Steag, and KWU [Kraftwerksunion] will pose no obtacles to the proposal he will submit for the renegotiation of the nuclear agreements between the two countries. This renegotiation is sought as a result of the restructuring of the Brazilian nuclear program that led to the elimination of Nuclebras.

According to Foreman, Brazil will propose that these three enterprises give up their participation as shareholders in two subsidiaries of the former Nuclebras (Nuclam and Nuclei) [Nuclebras Mining Assistance, Inc., and Nuclebras Isotope Enrichment, Inc.], without any compensation. He also believes that these enterprises will agree to the transfer of Nuclen [Nuclebras Engineering, Inc.] to Eletrobras [Brazilian Electric Power Plants]. Nuclen is another subsidiary of Nuclebras, responsible for the construction of the Angra II and III nuclear plants. A preliminary agreement was reached this week for the purchase by the INB of 2 percent of the shares from Nuclep [Nucleabras Heavy Equipment, Inc.] (manufacturer of equipment for the nuclear sector), which will be privatized and offered for sale through public bids within 3 months.

Foreman believes that these three German enterprises will not create any difficulty now that Brazil is taking the initiative to change clauses of the contracts, because in the past Nuclebras agreed to some changes proposed by these enterprises without posing any problem and without demanding financial compensation. Foreman says that 5 years ago the Germans expressed a desire to halt the activities of Nuclam, arguing that the demand for uranium had declined in the FRG. The supply from Brazil was no longer necessary. Another concession granted by Brazil was the purchase by the INB of shares of Nuclep, proposed by the Germans and formalized this week, after a year of negotiations. Foreman believes that Rex Nazare, chairman of the National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN), will not have to leave Vienna where he is attending the IAEA annual meeting, to help him in the negotiations.

The understandings, however, could be more difficult than Foreman believes. After all, the German enterprises have invested resources in the subsidiaries that Brazil now intends to abolish. The FRG holds 49 percent of the shares of Nuclam, a subsidiary company created to produce and export uranium to the FRG, and although this company has been out of operation for 5 years, the agreement provides for its reactivation whenever the FRG expresses interest in purchasing the product again. Foreman thinks otherwise, however: "We do not need to indemnify the Germans at all because the elimination of Nuclam represents the recognition of a real paralysis." The FRG also holds 25 percent of the shares of Nuclei, a subsidiary company created to produce the first uranium enrichment cascade at an industrial level mounted in Angra dos Reis. Nuclei was also abolished by the decree, signed by President Sarney, that has restructured the nuclear sector. Nevertheless, the project for the production of the first cascade continues, and it will be managed by the INB, which intends to finish it by December 1989. Foreman said in this regard that he sees no reason to purchase the FRG's shares. He said: "Nuclei represents risk capital. It received resources from both the FRG and Brazil. Profit has never been the objective, and therefore there is nothing to indemnify."

Regarding Nuclen, responsible for the construction of the nuclear plants, the foreign partners must now seek understandings with Eletrobras, which has absorbed the company and is now responsible for finishing Angra II and III. The FRG has 25 percent of Nuclen's shares, and

an agreement was reached this week for the purchase of the 2 percent remaining in the hands of the German companies. This measure was necessary because the government has decided to privatize the enterprise.

New Culture Minister Aparecido Installed

PY2209021688 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2250 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] This morning former Brasilia Governor Jose Aparecido was installed as the new culture minister. This position had been vacant since Minister Celso Furtado tendered his resignation.

Minister Aparecido is occupying this position for the second time. At the beginning of the new republic, Aparecido was culture minister at the invitation of President Tancredo Neves.

Chile

Pinochet Announces 8-Year Government Program

PY2309020688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Speaking during a news conference during which he released a government program for 1989-97, President Augusto Pinochet said that the opposition can cooperate with ideas and help. With regard to implementing the program, the president called upon all Chileans to help with generosity and harmony because, he said, no one can neglect his own responsibility of building a developed country for future generations, a country that can face its present and future with security and confidence.

The president displayed charts and maps to explain in detail the aspects of the government program. The president, who was accompanied by the interior and finance ministers, the presidential secretary, the minister secretary general of government, and the under secretary for regional development, said that we have a historical commitment to the entire country: to the youth, the women, the elderly, the children, the workers, the businessmen, the poorer sectors, and the middle class.

As for his call that everyone, including the opposition, cooperate to build a developed country for future generations, the president explained how this cooperation should be extended:

[Begin Pinochet recording] Everyone can help by giving ideas and by cooperating for the implementation of these ideas. The other day, during a conference I hosted, I gave an example. I can lift this table myself, but if there is someone who can help me, even if he does not agree with me, the table will seem much lighter and it will be lifted much faster. This is the type of cooperation (?that we expect). [end recording]

The president added: An exceptionally positive period lies ahead of us. The economic indexes reflect sound possibilities for progress, and the advent of democracy after the victory of the yes-vote will bring political stability and development.

Asked how the people can cooperate, the president let Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez answer:

[Begin Fernandez recording] The government has made a very clear call to the rank and file of the democratic opposition, to those sectors that do not agree with the government and that have different views, plans, and projects, but that are democratic. To the democratic opposition we have said dissent is possible within the political scheme designed by this government. That is why we call upon those sectors to vote yes, because this option will allow them to maintain their position and even to have representatives in Congress if they have the support of the people. They can even offer their own program of government. That is why we have made a standing call to the rank and file of the democratic sectors. We are responding, and I believe that the final response will come on 5 October. [end recording]

Asked whether he had any doubts about the implementation of his government program, which is based on a commitment to Chile, a country that is a winner, the president—who said that, 2 weeks before the plebiscite, he is in very good shape and in a very good mood—replied that a general, let alone a president, never harbors any doubts.

No-Vote Command Rally To Visit Rural Areas

PY2209215888 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] A car rally organized by the National Command for the No-Vote started today. One hundred national leaders of the political parties that comprise the No-Vote Command are taking part in this rally.

The rally, which left from the Command for the No-Vote headquarters in Santiago, is currently heading to the northern and southern regions of the country.

Christian Democratic Party leader Belisario Velasco explained the objective of this rally:

[Begin recording] The Executive Board of the Command for the No-Vote has decided that 100 leaders of the political parties comprising the command will visit some 155 rural communities, located in the area between the 4th and the 10th regions, to make the Command's message of joy known to the people of these communities and to give party leaders the chance to hold talks with members of their parties' rank and file, and with other Chileans who live in isolated areas reached only by television and radio. This way, these people will be able to express their ideas and discuss the problems that affect them. [end recording]

The Command for the No-Vote rally will end on 26 September. The cars taking part in the rally carry banners and pamphlets supporting the opposition campaign for the plebiscite.

Human Rights Group Alleges 'Serious Crimes'

PY2209214488 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The Chilean Human Rights Committee has handed General Pinochet a public petition requesting him to explain to the country some serious crimes, which cannot be denied, that occurred during his term in office. This petition expresses the concern of the Chilean people regarding these crimes.

The petition was released by representatives of the Chilean Human Rights Committee, which is headed by lawyer Jaime Castillo Velasco and Maximo Pacheco, who was education minister during President Eduardo Frei's administration.

The petition, which is addressed to Mr Augusto Pinochet Ugarte—appointed president of the Republic for another period of government [as heard] and the highest executive branch representative for the past 15 years—points out some serious human rights violations, which must be explained.

These violations occurred during the period following 11 September 1973, when national life became uncontrollable, several homes were raided, and many people were harassed and killed. The petition also requests clarification on cases of people who inexplicably have been missing since their arrest for reasons still unknown. [passage omitted]

Through its Children and Adolescents' Department, the Chilean Human Rights Committee has explained its concern over the use of children in propaganda spots supporting the yes-vote, which are broadcast on television. [passage omitted]

The communique released by the Human Rights Committee ends by urging the advertisement professionals who created this type of propaganda to be more creative and positive instead of adding horror to the pain of the Chilean nation.

Colombia

FARC Guerrillas Propose 2-Month Cease-Fire

PA2309044388 Paris AFP in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Bogota, 22 Sep (AFP)—The FARC guerrillas tonight proposed to the government a 60-day cease-fire to make progress in the negotiations aimed at bringing peace to Colombia.

RCN [Radio Cadena Nacional] rebroadcast a tape of Jacobo Arenas, staff member of the subversive organization, that was sent in the last few hours to President Virgilio Barco's government.

This is the first response by an extremist organization to the peace plan presented by Barco to the country on 10 September.

The communist, pro-Soviet FARC, the most important rebel group in Colombia, made their proposal under the title "A Cease-Fire To Achieve Peace."

The recording asks the president to call for a grand national agreement that can outline a realistic peace plan.

The FARC said that church representatives, economic organizations, political parties, parliament, the Attorney General's Office, labor unions, the media, former presidents, organizations of retired servicemen, active servicemen, guerrillas, and the government should participate in this plan.

Arenas said: "We proposed to the government a 2-month general cease-fire to ensure the development of a grand national agreement to achieve peace." His message, as usual, is signed from "the mountains of Colombia."

Making several comments on the country's current situation, the guerrilla leader said the Barco peace plan has important aspects. However, the plan is theoretical regarding other aspects that he will discuss later.

Arenas insisted that the foremost necessity is to end the dirty war, "in order not to fall prey to one of the dictatorships that many Latin American countries fell prey to."

In conclusion, after recalling the many factors that generated the violence that has been raging in Colombia for the past 40 years, the subversive leader denounced the existence of henchmen armed and financed by the drug trafficking mafias.

Cuba's Malmierca Visits, Discusses Relations

PA2209193588 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1745 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Interview with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca by unidentified reporter in Bogota on 22 September—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Malmierca] ...We have the modest expectation that our visit may help relations.

[Reporter] Would you say, then, that diplomatic relations are on the way to being restored?

[Malmierca] We believe those relations exist. They are not formal, but they are real.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, have you brought a message from President Castro to President Barco, following the meeting they held in Quito?

[Malmierca] The reiteration of their feelings of friendship.

[Reporter] Going back to the subject of cultural relations, which have always existed—President Castro has always said that Colombia has an ambassador in Havana in Gabriel Garcia Marquez—can we say these relations are continuing to expand?

[Malmierca] Yes, we believe so.

[Reporter] We have an ambassador in the Human Rights Commission visiting your country—Ambassador Rivas Posada. How was this commission greeted? What has it been doing?

[Malmierca] We are certain the commission will confirm what our government has said and what our people have maintained and reiterated: that Cuba feels proud of its observance of human rights and regards it as a banner it can proudly wave throughout our continent.

Report on Protests, Strikes Throughout Country

PA2209213088 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Report by William Parra]

[Text] In the past 8 days, several protests have taken place in various parts of the country. In Tumaco, the people, after spending 27 days without electricity, staged a demonstration that resulted in over 1 billion pesos in damage, 1 death and 46 injuries, and the destruction of 7 public buildings. In addition, a separatist movement was created.

There was a strike in Pasto in support of the 90,000 inhabitants of that Pacific port. The demonstrators took over the Rumichaca international bridge, and they attacked the city hall and several businesses. In view of the situation, the governor decreed a curfew from 1400 on Tuesday until 0600 on Wednesday. At the same time, teachers declared a hunger strike, which has continued for 3 days.

In Uraba, Antioquia, 25,000 workers remain on strike. Seven banana workers unions are protesting the military measures implemented in the area. In support of today's strike, 60 percent of commercial establishments are closed, and transportation is unavailable.

In the wake of a protest march in Riohacha, 50 people were arrested by the authorities, and 4 others were injured. The Social Welfare Institute, the city hall, and the ICA [Colombian Agricultural-Livestock Institute] sustained considerable damage.

In Bucaramanga, an ELN [Army of National Liberation] cell attempted to blow up the headquarters of the 2d Army Division. Using a camper loaded with dynamite, the guerrillas tried to kill General Farouk Yamine Diaz. Several residences in the area were damaged. Damage amounted to more than 150 million pesos.

In the 7 August neighborhood in Florencia, Caqueta, the Patriotic Union's offices were destroyed.

Three Early Morning 'Terrorist Attacks' 22 Sep

PA2209131988 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Bogota—Three new terrorist attacks were carried out early this morning, at an airport in Barranquilla, at the Communist Party headquarters in Florencia, and at the Cerro Azul military installations in Uraba. The police confirmed that unidentified individuals armed with machineguns attacked the Colombian Air Force installations in the capital of Atlantico. There were no casualties.

The Malambo area, close to the (?Barranquilla) International Airport, where the air base is located, was immediately militarized. Guards at the site repelled the attack, which was apparently staged by guerrillas.

Similarly, it was learned that a bomb exploded today at the Communist Party headquarters in the capital of Caqueta, causing considerable property damage. It was immediately announced that no one had been injured or killed in the extremist action.

It was also announced that suspected subversives staged another attack on the installations of the battalion stationed in Uraba at Cerro Azul, (?near) Turbo.

These terrorist attacks took place 1 day after the serious attack launched at the 2d Army Division headquarters in Bucaramanga, which resulted in seven people injured and considerable property damage, affecting nine homes.

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Answers Uruguayan Legislators

PY2309024788 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 22 Sep 88 p 11

[Text] Referring to the note a group of Uruguayan congressmen handed Paraguayan Ambassador Roque Yodice in Montevideo, Foreign Minister Rodney Elpidio Acevedo has stated that no demand has been made, only an expression of concern, which was answered yesterday afternoon by our ambassador.

The foreign minister explained that he had learned Ambassador Yodice met with the Uruguayan congressmen on 19 September, "and according to my information, they visited the ambassador as private citizens, not

in the name of the Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies. I understand that two Colorado Party, one Blanco Party, and one Broad Front congressmen visited the ambassador. That is the information that I have."

When he was reminded that news agency reports indicated the Uruguayans had demanded greater openness in politics and journalism, the foreign minister answered that this is the type of idea held by people who know nothing about our country's political reality.

"The answer to the note, which was to have been handed to the Uruguayans yesterday, indicates that they need to obtain knowledge about Paraguay within Paraguay itself and not through reports that are disseminated outside the country through interested people or press reports. One has to learn about Paraguay here in Paraguay itself and not through the reports of press agencies, whose interests are not the same as those of the Paraguayan people," the foreign minister said.

Acevedo stated that the handing of the note to the Paraguayan ambassador was a routine. "Our embassies have the mission of explaining what happens in the country and to do so one has to resort to them to know the truth about our country. Therefore, we do not view the actions of the Uruguayan congressmen as improper," the minister concluded.

Police Beat Opposition Leaders in Caacupe

PY2009140788 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Sep 88 p 8

[Text] Four leaders of Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] have reported that they were beaten last night by Caacupe police forces during a party meeting held in Cabanas District.

PLRA Chairman Domingo Laino reported that "plain-clothes holdup men, with short police-style hairstyles, raided the private property where the meeting was taking place and threatened, at gunpoint, all those present. We were told not to move. After 20 minutes a man, who was presumably the chief of the Caacupe investigative police, arrived and reminded us that we had been forbidden to enter that city. A brutal beating, which lasted 10 minutes, then followed. After that we were forced to get into a vehicle, which dumped us outside the Cordillera Department limits. We do not know what happened to the other party members," Laino added.

Peru

Minister Announces Elimination of Price Freeze

PY2209171588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1405 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Economy Minister Abel Salinas last night announced to the country that the government has not changed its decision to maintain a price freeze on staples in order to protect the poorest sectors of the country. The minister also said the government will maintain the single foreign exchange rate that was established at the beginning of the program, that is, 250 intis to the dollar. This level of exchange is still valid, Salinas added.

[Begin Salinas recording] Expectations make up on of the most important components of inflation. One of the objectives of my administration is to avoid the price distortions caused by expectations. I intend to do this by keeping the population informed. This information should be clear and serious, as are all issues concerning the economy of the country.

The first part of the anti-inflationary program, as I have announced at the beginning, meant a large devaluation of the inti, a strong increase in taxes, the elimination of most subsidies and tax exemptions, and the restriction of consumption, always in a way to protect the poorest sectors.

These corrections forced businessmen to transfer the cost adjustments to their prices, giving rise to a large increase in the final price of products. We consider this adjustment to be corrective, and it will last throughout this month.

We established a 10-day period for companies to register and justify their new costs. The government also decided that after this period prices would be frozen for 120 days. This was necessary and logical within the framework of the overall program, if the economic factors had responded in the usual way.

But rumors and the consequent uncertainties have induced businessmen to raise prices well above what we considered their real costs. Businessmen have tried not only to adjust to the higher costs but also to protect themselves from uncertainties. The price of many products were increased at a disproportionate rate. These adjustments created unnecessary inflationary preassures, all due to false expectations.

These false expectations, for instance, led businessmen to increase prices by 300 percent instead of 150 percent, the final price reflecting not only real cost increases but also fear of instability, fear of increased inflation over the next 4 months, and fear of an interruption in the democratic process.

Within this climate of uncertainties and rumors, the rational price increase for 4 months that we expected ended up being a large increase that included business fears as a component. All this creates an unnecessary burden on the people.

We have listened to the opinions of different economic sectors and to those of independent economists on the issue. They all agreed that in the present circumstances it was not convenient to maintain the price freeze.

The price policy we have implemented is oriented to preventing distortions and to obtaining more rational price behavior with a minimum of indirect controls and subsidies, but under strict state supervision to protect the poorest sectors and prevent speculation.

We have made an objective and rational evaluation of the evolution of prices in the last 2 weeks and concluded there is a need to implement some corrections.

First, I have to confirm that the government will not modify utility rates, gasoline prices, exchange rates, interest rates, and the minimum salary, because these items are the main components of the costs of all products.

This decision will help businessmen to set prices rationally and calmly. We trust that this government decision will help businessmen behave responsibly and set prices compatible with the real increase in costs and with market dynamics.

The elimination of the price freeze will make prices drop to their real levels. We will maintain the single exchange rate of 250 intis to the dollar, because this exchange rate is still valid.

I want to confirm my trust in the Peruvian people, who understand the need for the economic adjustments to avoid future problems in the future. The people have behaved calmly and courageously in this situation of scarcity and price increases, because they know that the program is for the good of the national economy. If we behave with responsibility, we can expect better times in the future. [end recording]

Free Dollar Exchange Rate Rises to 500 Intis

PY2209234988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1033 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Lima, 20 Sep [date as received] (EFE)—According to some economists, Peru's lack of stability today provoked a 25-percent increase in the dollar exchange rate. In the free exchange market, the dollar was quoted at approximately 500 intis.

This is double the official exchange rate, which Peruvian President Alan Garcia's government set at 250 intis barely 2 weeks ago, when it eliminated the system of multiple exchange rates.

In the so-called Sole Exchange Rate Market [Mercado Unico de Cambios] (MUC) the inti has been devalued approximately 660 percent, going from 33 to 250 intis per dollar.

Yesterday the price of the dollar in the free market (controlled by the exchange houses and street money exchangers) was quoted at 400 intis, while the price in the banking sector, which varies daily in accordance with the offer and demand, was quoted at 352 intis per dollar.

Defense Minister, Senator on Coup Rumors

PY2209194788 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1140 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Enrique Lopez Albujar has said the Armed Forces will guarantee the continuation of the democratic system in Peru. The minister also denied press reports that he had tendered his resignation. [passage omitted]

National Senator Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, from the ranks of the United Left, has said it is much better to discuss our problems in a democracy than to endure a dictatorship that could fill the country with tombs. Ledesma condemned all attempts at interrupting the democratic system and made an urgent call for national unity to overcome the serious crisis. He also said the country needs fresh loans from international financing organizations. [passage omitted]

APRA Deputies Support Garcia Measures

PY2209232288 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Deputy Luis Alvarado Contreras has said that the APRA congressional bloc has unanimously decided to support the work of President Alan Garcia.

[Begin recording] [Alvarado] The resolution states: Considering that following the latest government economic measures, the members of the APRA bloc have held meetings to analyze the consequences of such measures; and considering that to this effect the APRA bloc designated a joint committee of senators and deputies who have fulfilled their mission, the APRA bloc hereby decides: 1) To support the work of President Alan Garcia Perez and the Council of Ministers, as an expression of party solidarity and—please let me take off my glasses in order to be more emphatic—and as an expression of unity and of rejection of the divisive maneuvers that jeopardize the democratic stability of the constitutional government; 2) To end the functions of the committee of economic analysis of the APRA bloc, which has satisfactorily fulfilled its mission.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Alvarado] This document reflects our unanimous decision, which was fraternally made by all APRA bloc members. We support the work of the president and the Council of Ministers. I am sure that you understand what I want to convey to you. It is easy to understand that we have extended our total support to the government and that we want to do our best to cooperate from our position in Congress, and in our capacity as APRA bloc members. [end recording]

The government has ended the price freeze. Prices will now be set on the basis of supply and demand trends.

Agriculture Minister Remigion Morales Bermudez has stressed that the regulated price of basic commodities will not be increased, adding that many products are in short supply because many people believe that prices will rise.

'Terrorist Attack' at Ministry; 25 Injured

PY2209212588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Last night's brutal attack against the Economy Ministry resulted in 25 people being seriously injured and considerable damage to the building.

This is the report from the Economy and Finance Ministry this morning after last night's brutal terrorist attack in which 25 people were injured.

The attack took place at a side door of this ministry. The subversive used two stolen wheelbarrows, in which they had placed 50 kg of dynamite, for their attack.

A 1-meter wide hole can be seen where the attack occurred, and the bomb's shock waves affected the doors and windows of shops located in this neighborhood.

The explosion affected pedestrians, shop owners, and the general public in the vicinity.

8 Alleged Rebels Die in Clash With Army

PY2309024388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2244 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Lima, 22 Sep (EFE)—Eight alleged Shining Path guerrillas died in a clash with an Army patrol in Ayacucho, a communique of the national security subzone of the central region reported today in this capital.

The communique reports that the clash occurred on 19 September, 3 days after the guerrillas rounded up 150 head of cattle in the township of Marcaracay, Huanta Province.

The Army patrol recovered 87 head of cattle and seized hand grenades, explosives, and ammunition left behind by the terrorists.

Venezuela

Peruvian Meets Lusinchi, Calls for Debtors Front

PA2009192988 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Peruvian Foreign Minister Luis Gonzalez has said a Latin American debtors front needs to be formed to consolidate the debt owed to international banks.

When received by Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, the Peruvian foreign minister said that under the present circumstances, the debt is unpayable, because it would require a total sacrifice by all Latin American economies. He added that all the countries in the area are aware of this fact.

During his visit to the Venezuelan head of state, Luis Gonzalez was accompanied by Venezuelan Foreign Minister German Nava Carrillo and the Peruvian ambassador to Caracas.

Suriname

Foreign Minister Sedoc Leaves for Venezuela

FL2009194088 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Eddie Sedoc left yesterday for Caracas, Venezuela, where he will attend the annual ministerial meeting of the Latin American Economic System, SELA. At the meeting, which ends today, the annual report of the permanent secretary of SELA will be among the subjects to be discussed. Minister Sedoc will also hold talks with his Venezuelan counterpart. During these talks the reactivation of the Suriname-Venezuela joint commission will be discussed, among others. Minister Sedoc and his delegation are expected back in Suriname on Saturday.

'Terrorist' Rob Palm Oil Company for 4th Time

FL2209200388 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Last weekend the palm oil company Victoria was again (?sundered) by terrorists. This was stated by the director of the company, [name indistinct], by way of a letter to the government. He said that nine armed men demanded large quantities of consumer items, [words indistinct] and 1,500 guilders in cash. The items which were demanded were cooking oil, fuel, rice, and petroleum. [Words indistinct] said [words indistinct] caused confusion and [words indistinct] order at the company, which acceded to some of the demands of the terrorists. The nine men were armed with automatic weapons and were dressed in camouflage uniforms with red berets. The director of the company told the government that he is very disturbed over the incident because this was the fourth time this year that the company was robbed by the terrorists.